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Le Pérou Économique. Par Paul Walle, Pp. xvi-388. E. Guilmoto, Paris, 1907.

The preface, due to the pen of Mr. Paul Labbé, Secretary General of the Society of Commercial Geography, Paris, might have been spared. It gives to the author a recommendation which he does not need, and it contains a "fling" at the so-called "globe-trotters," which the latter do not deserve. The historical part of the first chapter could also have been omitted for the many errors it contains and, in general; Mr. Walle does not shine very brightly in anything connected with Peruvian ethnography and colonial history. For the latter period he has little but vituperation, resulting from the ignorance and traditional bias so deeply rooted among Europeans and, to a large extent, still flourishing in this country. For the Peruvian Indian he has, of course, unbounded sympathy that causes him to go astray now and then. For instance, to say that acts of violence and crimes are so exceptional among the Quichua is utterly out of place. Bloody squabbles between Indian communities on the highlands are very common; so are individual crimes. We can affirm, from personal knowledge, that the Indian takes the greatest possible care to cause every evidence of such misdeeds to disappear. For this he has ample opportunity, and Peruvian justice knows the hopelessness of the attempt to discover, let alone to punish, crimes of that sort. The book is avowedly a guide for French emigrants. With laudable frankness Mr. Walle confesses the stimulus that gave occasion to its writing. In the first place, it is acknowledged by French colonial authorities of the highest rank (quoted by Mr. Walle) that there is no prospect for French colonists in any of the ultramarine possessions of France; either a monetary crisis or the superabundance of cheaper native labour renders the position of immigrants next to untenable, so that French emigration must turn to foreign countries. In South America, Chile, the Argentine, and Brazil are monopolized by German and English commerce and industry. The French flag has practically ceased to float in the Pacific. Perú, while attacked on all sides by European and North-American enterprises, is the only country where French colonization still has a show, unless it be in Ecuador and Colombia, which, though less accessible, may eventually present a fertile field. In Perú, France has already a very solid foothold. The Peruvian army and navy are under the exclusive educational and organizing control of French officers and French influence is strong in other branches of public life. Furthermore, as Mr. Walle very justly observes, there is a decided affinity between the French and the Peruvian character that creates a bond of sympathy which can and should be improved in furtherance of French commerce and industrial arts, and in directing French emigration towards a country where it is likely to receive a specially favourable reception.

Most of the information conveyed by Mr. Walle for the benefit of settlers in Perú is, as far as practical life is concerned, trustworthy. His judgment of the Peruvian is as sound as his opinion of the Indian is exaggerated. It is to be remembered, however, that the author considers the Indian as an asset for the immigrant; as his servant and helpmate to be, and that therefore he mitigates the disadvantageous side of the Indian character. In regard to geographical data it strikes us that he places too great reliance upon the works of Paz Soldán. He would have done better to consult more thoroughly the monumental labours of Antonio Raimondi. But his picture of the nature of the country is usually very true. He holds on to a sober representation of circumstances and facts, avoiding unnecessary flourishes, and writing, in general, for the practical mind and not for the imagination. Very valuable statistical data are given with a touch of sound

criticism. There is no display of tables. The figures are given in a cursory manner that makes them more useful because more impressive.

The book is an unpretentious one and lays no claim to scientific elaboration. It is the work of one who, if not long resident in Perú, has seen much, and made excellent use of his opportunities. Foregone conclusions, influenced by personal sympathy or antipathy, inevitably protrude here and there, but they are not offensive, except in the case of historical judgment; but, as the latter are only incidental, no grave strictures are called for.

Mr. Walle looks at the future of Perú in a favourable light, and we believe his hopes to be justified. The people have become thoroughly convinced that peaceable development alone is in the interest of the nation; that the time for violent dissensions is passed and will not so easily return, hence the call for immigration to Perú, intimated by the work before us, is timely and justified. When, as in the present instance, this call is accompanied by valuable information and reliable guidance, it becomes a worthy accession to geographical literature.

The illustrations are not of a high character and they are indifferently selected. The map is of small size, not incorrect, but it gives comparatively little detail. The bibliography at the end is scanty and limited to the most recent literature in French, with some modern Peruvian sources. One book in the English language is also mentioned.

A. F. B.

Studia Pontica. II. Voyage d'exploration archéologique dans le Pont et la Petite Arménie. Par F. et E. Cumont. Bruxelles, H. Lamentin, 1906. (Price, fr. 17.50.)

The authors present in this book a scientific account of an archæological expedition to Pontus and Lesser Armenia. To a certain extent their narrative is also of geographical value, not so much through its occasional descriptions of the landscape as by virtue of the striking picture that it gives of the character of a country in which so many different civilizations have succeeded each other. The large number of fine illustrations will especially interest the geographer as well as the archæologist.

M. K. G.

Das altsächsische Bauernhaus in seiner geographischen Verbreitung. Ein Beitrag zur deutschen Landes- und Volkskunde, von Dr. Willi Peszler. Braunschweig, Fr. Vieweg und Sohn, 1906.

In the old countries where each province has developed not only an individual dialect, an individual style of dress, and an individual type of settlement and of house-structure, the studies of such characteristics form an important branch of ethnology as well as of home geography. It is from this point of view that Dr. Peszler has taken up the detailed study of the "Old-Saxon" farmhouse and the geographical boundaries of its occurrence. This type of dwelling—mainly rural, but often also modified to meet the needs of urban surroundings—is the characteristic house of the lowland of Northwestern Germany, the country of the old Saxons from whom it derives its name. It is a very large building which unites under its roof the living rooms, barns, and stables, in opposition to the "Franconian" house of upper Germany, where dwelling-house, barn, and stable are separate buildings enclosing a central yard. The most prominent part of the Old-Saxon house is the high and wide *dele* (Diele) or hall, which runs lengthwise through the whole structure on the ground floor. Right and left of it are the partitions for the animals, hay, and grain, and along the back wall, transversely